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SECRET IVI

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FROM	TO:	PLACE	DATE

From: CG USAF China Shanghai

To: War Department for WARG-2

Nr: CFB 00143 2 May 1946

Follows G-2 comment on SSU message to Washington regarding Manchurian political situation dated 23 April, number Shan 738 which has just come to out attention. Manchurian political leaders with popular following both unorganized and organized, latter comprising guerrilla, bandit and former puppet troops, find main source political leadership in Chang Hsueh Liang. This group desires semi-autonomous Manchuria within framework within framework Chinese Republic but under their control. Liberal elements this party are Chang Hsueh Liang and Chang Hsueh Shih and followers, having greatest amount popular support among peasantry and educated classes due strongly liberal and reformist policies. As former Governor Manchuria Chang Hsueh Liang also has close personal relationships with and high degree support from former Manchurian military leaders. Kuomintang, apprehensive of return of Manchurian leaders with leaning toward autonomy, has staffed main posts with southern party members. This policy alienated considerable popular support, hence later appointment certain Manchurian militarists in advisory capacities. Believe these appointments reflect Kuomintangs desire secure support Manchurian leaders without relinquishing any degree authority. Believe Kuomintang could have secured full support Chang faction, most influential in Manchuria, if willing relinquish large measure authority so doing could have probably offset Communist gains. Alternative is to see Chang faction consummate Communist alliance or

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possibly seek Soviet support. Kuomintang has single advantage in holding person Chang Hsueh Liang, but this offset by presence younger brother Chang Hsueh Shih in Manchuria, active building political forces as elder brothers deputy. He believed strong reformist tendencies and more friendly Communists inimical Kuomintang than elder brother. Finally, believed sentiment for autonomy in Manchuria always extang and fostered by Japanese continues and grows among all classes.

End

ACTION: G-2

INFO : CG AAF, OPD

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